

# Information Paper AR2 – Requirements for a competent person to supervise work to remove friable asbestos containing material

## Purpose

This information paper states the competencies a person must have to be regarded as competent to supervise work to remove friable asbestos containing material.

## Types of certificates

There are two types of certificates relating to asbestos removal work.

**“A” class certificates** cover all asbestos removal work. This means the holder of an A class certificate has the appropriate authority to remove friable asbestos containing material (ACM) as well as bonded ACM. These certificates are held by a business. The holder of an A class certificate must ensure the removal of friable ACM is **directly supervised** by a competent person.

**“B” class certificates** only cover work to remove 10m<sup>2</sup> or more of bonded ACM. These certificates **do not** authorise a person to remove friable ACM. B class certificates are held by individuals who are directly involved in the removal of bonded ACM.

However, if the removal of 10m<sup>2</sup> or more of bonded ACM is being undertaken by the holder of an A class certificate, it is not necessary for the persons undertaking the removal work to hold B class certificates as long as those persons are directly supervised by the A class certificate holder’s competent person.

Removal of all asbestos containing material (even less than 10m<sup>2</sup> of bonded ACM where a certificate is not required) must be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the *National Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition [NOHSC: 2002 (2005)]*.

## Which Information Papers are relevant?

For A class certificates, refer to –

- *Information Paper AR1 – Approved criteria for a certificate to perform work to remove friable asbestos containing material*
- *Information Paper AR2 – Requirements for a competent person to supervise work to remove friable asbestos containing material*

For B class certificates, refer to –

- *Information Paper AR3 – Approved criteria for a certificate to perform work to remove bonded asbestos containing material*

## Requirements for a competent person

A person will be considered a 'competent person' to directly supervise work to remove friable ACM if he or she meets the following requirements:

1. The person must be at least 18 years of age.

AND

2. The person must demonstrate a working knowledge of the A class business holder's workplace health and safety policy and procedures.

AND

3. The person must demonstrate knowledge of the –

- *Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995*
- *Workplace Health and Safety Regulation 2008*
- *National Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos 2nd Edition [NOHSC: 2002 (2005)].*

[NOTE: holding a Workplace Health and Safety Officer Certificate issued under the *Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995* would demonstrate achievement of the first two elements of this requirement)

AND

4. The person must have at least three years relevant industry experience.

AND

5. The person must have demonstrated practical supervisory experience in the removal of friable ACM, including having successfully completed at least 3 major projects involving the removal of friable ACM.

[NOTE: One way of demonstrating compliance with this requirement would be a written record (for example, a log book jointly signed by the person and the responsible person/s) that identifies the supervisory experience, the dates of commencement and completion of the projects and the nature of the projects, (including the types and quantities of asbestos containing materials involved and the equipment used).]

AND

6. The person must hold –

(A) a Statement of Attainment in 30764 QLD Course in the Safe Removal and Disposal of Asbestos or an equivalent course issued by a Registered Training Organisation that covers competencies which meet requirements under the *National Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos 2nd Edition [NOHSC: 2002 (2005)];*

OR

(B) a relevant qualification e.g. a degree or diploma relevant to asbestos removal;

OR

(C) a relevant certificate issued prior to 1 February 2002 under Part 3 of the former *WHS Regulation 1997*, as it then was, to perform work in the prescribed occupation of Asbestos Removalist.

[**Note:** From 1 February 2009, 6(C) will no longer apply. From that date a person must comply with the other requirements outlined above to be regarded as being a competent person to supervise work to remove friable asbestos containing material.]

## **Trainees**

The training of supervisors may be part of the competent person's duties. For the purposes of demonstrating competency to supervise and so that 'trainee' supervisors get enough exposure in supervising the mandatory three major friable ACM removal projects, it may be necessary for the trainee supervisor to be under the supervision of a competent person. Providing the trainee already has enough relevant industry experience to meet the three year minimum required at the completion of those projects, supervisory experience acquired under a trainee situation will be recognised for the purposes of meeting supervisory competency. Evidence of having been under a training plan including the requisite log book entries and project details will need to be presented to an accredited provider for assessment if the 'trainee' is being nominated as the competent person for the purposes of applying for or renewing an A class business certificate.

[Need a logbook for additional resources?](#)

## **Further information**

For more information contact Workplace Health and Safety Queensland

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